

No more media consolidation.

I am writing to you today to comment on Docket No. 02-277, The Biennial Review of the FCC's broadcast media ownership rules. In its goals to promote competition, diversity and localism in today's media market, I strongly believe that the FCC should retain all of the current media ownership rules now in question. These rules serve the public interest by limiting the market power of already huge companies in the broadcast industry.

The Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 was passed promising to give Americans MORE diversity, and MORE competition, of sources of information. However, this increased diversity did not come to pass. The Act allowed media to become more and more consolidated, allowing fewer and fewer people to present their views to Americans. We need these diverse views, to facilitate informed debates about the best course for our democracy.

Please help keep debate on the airwaves, and do not further weaken ownership regulations.

Secondly, I demand that the FCC do a better job soliciting public participation in this debate. Further deregulation could have a profound impact on the character of our democracy. Therefore, it is essential that the FCC hold more public hearings, making it possible for those with civic interests in the issue to inform the FCC of their opinions.

Before the FCC allows further media consolidation, take the time to more fully review the effects of the FTA of 1996, and allow the public to add its input.

Thank you,

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